

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 September 2005 (15.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/086435 A1

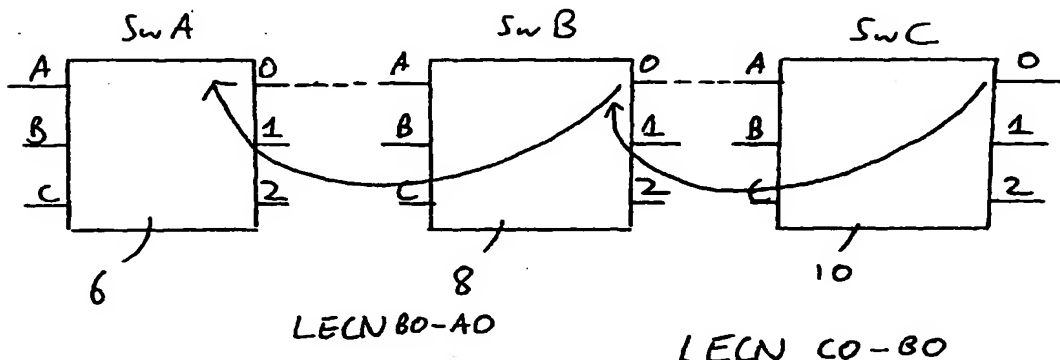
- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/56** (74) Agent: FREEMAN, Avi; Beck Greener, Fulwood House, 12 Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6HR (GB).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB2005/000836 (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 4 March 2005 (04.03.2005)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/550,058 5 March 2004 (05.03.2004) US
60/622,995 29 October 2004 (29.10.2004) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): XYRATEX TECHNOLOGY LIMITED [GB/GB]; Langstone Road, Havant, Hampshire PO9 1SA (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): NAVEN, Finbar [IE/GB]; 88 Crossefield Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire SK8 5PF (GB). JOHNSON, Ian, David [GB/GB]; 17 Grange Park, Ferring, West Sussex BN12 5LS (GB). DUATO, Jose [ES/ES]; El Campes 7, E-46183-La Elia Valencia (ES). FLICH, Jose [ES/ES]; Call Mayor, 69 4B, E-12520 Nules Castellon (ES).
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A METHOD FOR CONGESTION MANAGEMENT OF A NETWORK, A SIGNALLING PROTOCOL, A SWITCH, AN END STATION AND A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method of congestion management within a switch or network of connected switches is provided, wherein the or each of the switches has a plurality of ingress ports and a plurality of egress ports. The method comprises when congestion is detected at a first ingress or egress port, sending a message to an upstream port connected to the first ingress or egress port indicating that congestion has occurred at a particular port and requesting storage at the upstream port of data packets destined for that port; and, in dependence on the amount of data packets destined for the congested port stored at said upstream port, sending from the upstream port to a further upstream port a message informing said further upstream port of the congestion at the congested port, said further upstream port storing at said further upstream port data packets destined for the congested port.